



First Ladies

Costumed fashion historian Bonnie Hansen will introduce you to three of our early First Ladies, showcasing their lives, their loves, their unique personalities, and the fashions of the day.

Meet Martha Washington, Dolley Madison, and Mary Todd Lincoln.



Outrageous Hats! And Boston Tea Parties

Look back at the fanciful and sometimes frightful hats favored by ladies around 1900. Learn about the formation of the American Audubon Society and its efforts to save birds from the millinery trade.

Rare and beautiful antique hats will be displayed, and fashion trends discussed through period photos.

Victorian Underpinnings

Let Bonnie take you back to the days of Scarlett O'Hara and show you, layer by layer, the mysteries of Victorian underpinnings.

See how a lady of 1860 would get dressed in the morning. You'll see oddities such as corsets, bustles and hoopskirts in this light-hearted look back at Victorian foundation garments.



Gibson Girl Mother/ Flapper Daughter The First Generation Gap

Buttoned-up Gibson Girls and free-living flappers: It was the mother of all generation gaps.

Hear about the fashion and lifestyle changes that occurred between the time of the Gibson Girls in the 1890s and their flapper daughters in the 1920s.

Costumed fashion historian Bonnie Hansen will share compelling period photos and an eye-catching display of authentic period clothing and accessories from both eras in this colorful talk.



The Harvey Girls

Bonnie recounts the story of Fred Harvey and his waitresses who helped to civilize the Wild West. As the food contractor for the Santa Fe Railway, Harvey was dissatisfied with the conduct and cleanliness of his waiters, so he turned to women instead.

Hear the romantic story of these brave women who left their lives in the East and helped civilize the West.



Loula Long Combs

Known for her fabulous fashions and elegant style, she was the Queen of the American Royal, and more.

Loula Long Combs was the generous, lovable mistress of Longview Farm. Hear her story as told with costumes, period photos and a display of historic hats.

Bonnie Hansen was the Executive Producer of an award-winning PBS film on the Long family.

Vintage Fashion Shows

Vintage Nouveau Fashions from the Past has provided vintage fashion shows, talks on fashion history, costuming, and displays of period clothing and accessories since 1990.

Regular customers include:

- *Excelsior Springs Gatsby Days*
- *Friends of the K.C. Museum*
- *KC Rail Experience*
- *Longview Community College*
- *Red Hat Societies*
- *Stephens College*
- *Union Station Kansas City*
- *Vaile Mansion Victorian Society*
- *Victorian Trading Company*

“Perhaps the best feature [in the KC Rail Experience] is its ‘ghosts’ — life-size figures, costumed right down to the seams in women’s stockings. . . They succeed in bringing Kansas City’s history alive.”

- The Kansas City Star

Vintage Nouveau has also worked with the motion picture industry on wardrobe for such films as:

*Ang Lee’s **Ride with the Devil**,
Robert Altman’s **Kansas City**,
Steven Spielberg’s **Road to Perdition**, and
more.*



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Vintage Nouveau Fashions from the Past



Bonnie Hansen

Fashion Historian

Consultant to the motion picture industry

*Collector of antique clothing and accessories,
dating back to the 1860s*

Award Winning PBS Executive Producer

A variety of talks available:

The Harvey Girls

Loula Long Combs

First Ladies' Fashions

Victorian Underpinnings

Gibson Girl Mother/Flapper Daughter

Outrageous Hats!